

HALA Community Focus Groups

Summary of Participant Selection Process



Selection Committee. The HALA Community Focus Group selection committee was comprised of five members, one each from the Department of Neighborhoods and Office of Housing, and three from the Office of Planning and Community Development.

Sequence of decision-making process.

- The committee met to review applicants using the **selection criteria**, aiming to include a diverse grouping of people from each urban village.
- Aside from name, address, and contact information, **all other applicant characteristics were provided voluntarily in application narratives**. For this reason it was not possible to discern gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, renter/owner status, income, and many more characteristics for all applicants. Many people chose to self-identify, and that information – along with applicant interests, perspectives, backgrounds, and more – was considered in the selection process in meeting the criteria set out ahead of time.
- After initial selections were made, participant characteristics were tallied according to the established criteria to ensure representation from a diversity of groups.
- The committee met with Puget Sound Sage, with whom the City is working to bring members of underrepresented communities into the focus group process. This aspect of the focus groups is aimed at bringing a diversity of perspectives while further equipping members of traditionally underrepresented groups with experience and skills in government and community leadership processes. Sage recommended ten people who had applied across the 33 urban villages.
- The committee's recommended list was then sent to and approved by the mayor's office, at which time notices were sent to those who applied.

Additional questions?

Please contact us at HALAApplication@Seattle.gov

And **thank you** to everyone who applied.

Please continue your involvement in the HALA conversation.